As Offered

135th General Assembly Regular Session 2023-2024

H. R. No. 446

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Representative Miller, M.

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing CASA Day in Ohio, April 30, 2024.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 135th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to recognize April 30, 2024, as 2 Court Appointed Special Advocates Day in Ohio; and 3 WHEREAS, Every child deserves a nurturing family and a safe environment, free from fear, abuse, and neglect. However, tens of 5 thousands of children in Ohio are threatened by abuse and neglect 6 every day, some so severely that the courts intervene for their safety. These children are our most vulnerable citizens, and new cases of child abuse and neglect are filed in the court system each year; 9 and 10 WHEREAS, To represent abused and neglected children in court 11 proceedings and advocate for their best interests, countless trained 12 volunteers in Ohio serve as court appointed special advocates and 13 quardians ad litem, and research shows that children who are assigned 14 to CASA/GAL volunteers spend less time in the court system and in 15 foster care, are more likely to find permanent homes, and are less 16 likely to enter the child welfare system than those without such 17 support. Indeed, all those associated with CASA/GAL programs have 18 earned the respect and gratitude of many, and they are deserving of 19 the highest praise; and 2.0 WHEREAS, CASA Day in Ohio recognizes the important work of 21 CASA/GAL volunteers, calls attention to the need for more CASA/GAL 22 volunteers, and provides encouragement to Ohio Court Appointed Special 2.3 Advocates at every level as well as those who support the CASA 24

program. Indeed, these selfless humanitarians have achieved a

praiseworthy record of service, and we are certain that in the years

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| to come, they will continue in the tradition of excellence that has | 27 |
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| become their hallmark; therefore be it | 28 |
| RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of | 29 |
| the 135th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, | 30 |
| recognize April 30, 2024, as Court Appointed Special Advocates Day in | 31 |
| Ohio; and be it further | 32 |
| RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit | 33 |
| duly authenticated copies of this Resolution to Ohio Court Appointed | 34 |
| Special Advocates and to the news media of Ohio. | 35 |